

“(I) enters such information about the firearm as the Secretary may require by regulation into a separate bound record;

“(II) in transferring the firearm to any transferee, complies with the requirements of this chapter as if the firearm were being transferred from the business inventory of that person; and

“(III) if the prospective transferor does not provide the person with a certified copy of a valid firearms license issued to the prospective transferor under this chapter, submits to the Secretary a report of the transfer or other disposition of the firearm on a form specified by the Secretary, which report shall not include the name of, or any other identifying information relating to, the transferor.

“(2) TRANSFERS BY PERSONS OTHER THAN LICENSEES.—It shall be unlawful for any person who is not licensed under section 923 to transfer a firearm pursuant to a posting or listing of the firearm for sale or exchange on an Internet website described in paragraph (1) to any person other than the operator of the website.

“(3) INTERACTIVE COMPUTER SERVICE.—Nothing in this section may be construed to provide any basis for liability against an interactive computer service which is not engaged in an activity a purpose of which is to—

“(A) originate an offer for sale of one or more firearms on an Internet website; or

“(B) provide a forum that is directed specifically at an audience of potential customers who wish to sell, exchange, or transfer firearms with or to others.”.

(2) PENALTIES.—Section 924(a) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(7) Whoever willfully violates section 922(z)(2) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 2 years, or both.”.

NOTICE OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Small Business will hold a hearing entitled “Education Success—Business Success.” The hearing will be held on Tuesday, May 25, 1999, beginning at 10 a.m. in room 428A of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The hearing will be broadcast live on the Internet from our homepage address: <http://www.senate.gov/sbc>

For further information, please contact David Bohley at 224-5175.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the full committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 13, 1999, in executive session, to mark up the FY 2000 Defense authorization bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the full Committee on Armed Services be author-

ized to meet at 2 p.m. on Thursday, May 13, 1999, in executive session, to mark up the FY 2000 Defense authorization bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 13, for purposes of conducting a full committee hearing which is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on S. 698, a bill to review the suitability and feasibility of recovering costs of high altitude rescues at Denali National Park and Preserve in Alaska, and for other purposes; S. 711, a bill to allow for the investment of joint Federal and State funds from the civil settlement of damages from the Exxon Valdez oil spill, and for other purposes; and S. 748, a bill to improve Native hiring and contracting by the Federal Government within the State of Alaska, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the full Committee on Environment and Public Works be granted permission to conduct a hearing on the Clean Water Act Plan, Thursday, May 13, 10 a.m., Hearing Room (SD-406).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, the Finance Committee requests unanimous consent to conduct a hearing on Thursday, May 13, 1999 beginning at 10 a.m. in room 215 Dirksen.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 13, 1999 at 10 a.m. to hold a hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet for a hearing on the Nomination of Richard McGahey during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 13, 1999, at 10 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE OVERSIGHT

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on criminal Justice Oversight, of the Senate Judiciary Committee, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 13, 1999 at 2 p.m. to hold a hearing in room 226, Senate Dirksen Office Building, on: “The Clinton Justice Department’s Refusal to Enforce the Law on Voluntary Confessions.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FORESTS AND PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Forests & Public Land Management of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 13, for purposes of conducting a hearing Subcommittee on Forests & Public Lands Management hearing which is scheduled to begin at 2:30 p.m. The purpose of this oversight hearing is to receive testimony on fire preparedness on public lands. Specifically, what actions the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service are taking to prepare for the fire season; whether the agencies are informing the public about these plans; and ongoing research related to wildlife and fire suppression activities.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

• Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I rise today to honor those police officers who devotedly and selflessly work to protect and serve the public on a daily basis. I also pay special tribute to those men and women who have given their lives in the line of duty.

According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation data, 138 law enforcement officers lost their lives while protecting our communities across America in 1998. Of this total, 61 law enforcement officers were slain in the line of duty. Our Capitol community was tragically affected last July when Capitol Police Officer Jacob Chestnut and Special Agent John Gibson were mortally wounded while they upheld their sworn duty to protect visitors, staff and Members of Congress.

All Americans should keep alive the memory of these two brave and heroic men, and recognize the contributions of the countless other law enforcement officers who have either been slain or disabled while performing their duties. For these reasons I am a proud cosponsor of S. Res. 22, which designates May 15, 1999, as “National Peace Officers Memorial Day.”

Mr. President, during this week of poignant ceremonies, Minnesota remembers Corporal Timothy Bowe of

the Minnesota State Patrol who was murdered while assisting the Chisago County Sheriff Department on June 7, 1997. Last year, Corporal Bowe's name was added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. Corporal Bowe was a devoted husband, father, trooper, and friend. More importantly, Corporal Timothy Bowe was a true Minnesota hero. This week, Corporal Bowe's name will be joined on the memorial by 155 other law enforcement officers who were killed in the line of duty.

Sadly, in our society today, unless we are personally affected by violence or disorder, we often do not realize the dedication of our law enforcement officers, and the sacrifices they make to keep our communities safe. "National Police Week" is an important time for all Americans to recognize the role law enforcement officers play in safeguarding the rights and freedoms we all enjoy daily and give thanks for their countless hours of service.

Mr. President, we owe a debt of gratitude not only to the slain officers who served their communities so courageously by preserving law and order, but also to their families, who have lost a spouse, parent or child. Our law enforcement officers are heroes and we must never forget their contributions and sacrifices—during "National Police Week," they are well remembered.●

RETIREMENT OF TREASURY SECRETARY RUBIN

● Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I rise today to share with my colleagues a few thoughts on the announcement that Treasury Secretary Rubin will be leaving his job in July.

It is hard to believe how far we have come in the six and a half years of Bob Rubin's tenure at the Treasury Department. Our most fundamental ideas of how the world works—at least the world of economics and finance—have been transformed during his leadership of President Clinton's economic team.

In our domestic finances, Mr. President, we have gone from a generation of seemingly intractable federal deficits to a new era of budget surpluses. It turns out that it is no easier to make budget policy now than it was before—in fact, it is probably harder. But the federal government is paying its own way now, and the payoff in the private economy—strong growth, low and stable interest rates, international confidence in the dollar—are there for everyone to see.

As someone who came to the Senate over a quarter of a century ago, I can tell my colleagues that there has been no more fundamental change in the way we do business around here.

And virtually everyone agrees that Bob Rubin's influence was the deciding factor in this Administration's successful fight to restore balance and respon-

sibility to our federal budget. If that were his only legacy, it would put him in the pantheon of our greatest Treasury Secretaries.

But Bob Rubin has left his mark on the international economy as well. The United States—restored to its historic role as the strongest and most influential economy in the world—was the indispensable leader during the financial crisis that shook international markets in the last two years. And it was Secretary Rubin's credibility that was on the line as international financial institutions like the IMF scrambled to meet the first financial crisis of the new global economy.

Because he knew what key financial markets needed to see and hear from policy makers—and because he knew the strengths and the weaknesses of those markets first hand—his guidance was the essential ingredient that contained the damage from that crisis.

Today, in the calm after the storm, there is still a lot of rebuilding to do—and too much troubling weakness in too many economies to say that the crisis is over. But it is not too early to say that the crisis was a direct challenge America's leadership in the world's economy, and Bob Rubin kept us on top.

I might add that among the many facets of that financial crisis, Secretary Rubin had to invest his considerable energy, skills, and reputation to get this Congress to provide the funds necessary for the IMF to do its job. If they gave medals in his line of work, Mr. President, he would have one for that campaign, too.

Robert Rubin was the recognized leader—with all of the heat that can come in that position—in two of the biggest economy stories of this decade: the battle against the deficit and the global financial crisis. His decisiveness, clarity of purpose, and calm persistence made a difference in this history of our time.

I noticed, Mr. President, that the financial markets genuflected yesterday at the news of Secretary Rubin's impending departure. They dipped for a while at the initial disappointment, but inevitably they recovered because his replacement is an equally formidable—and tested—veteran of those same battles that have made Bob Rubin's reputation.

Larry Summers, as Deputy Treasury Secretary, has earned Bob Rubin's confidence as his envoy to key countries in critical negotiations in the global financial crisis and in many other important jobs. He inherits a healthy economy, sound federal finances, and a strong team at the Treasury Department. But if the past few years are any guide, Mr. President, he will not lack for challenges.

I noticed that he thanked his teachers today in accepting the new opportunity President Clinton has offered

him. Surely he had no more valuable teacher than Bob Rubin. That should give us all confidence that the Treasury Department remains in good hands.●

HONORING GLORIA "PAT" HUTH

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Mrs. Gloria "Pat" Huth upon her retirement which will be celebrated on May 18, 1999.

Gloria "Pat" Huth was born on St. Patrick's Day to Mary and Martin Halasz. Mr. and Mrs. Halasz immigrated to the United States from Hungary.

Pat Huth graduated from Bad Axe High School, and earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Michigan State University. In 1962, she married her husband, Robert, Sr. She began teaching with the Van Dyke school system, taking time off from full-time teaching to raise her sons, Robert, Jr. and Jeff. Mrs. Huth always believed in the value of education and stressed that point to her students and her sons; her sons obtained Juris Doctor and Doctor of Medicine degrees, respectively.

After her boys began attending elementary school, Pat Huth returned to full-time teaching. In 1971, she began teaching at Neil E. Reid school in the L'Anse Creuse School District. In 1974, she was among eight teachers that left Neil E. Reid with their principal, Joseph Carkenord to open the new elementary school, Tenniswood, in Clinton Township, Michigan. Along the way, Pat obtained her Masters of Education Degree from Eastern Michigan University.

In 1979, she received an Educational Specialist Degree (EDS) from Oakland University. She was always continuing to attend school so that she could stay on top of trends and issues to help her students.

Mrs. Huth taught second grade for the L'Anse Creuse schools for 29 years and was a full-time teacher in Michigan for 33 years. Additionally, 8 years were spent as a substitute teacher for different school districts in Macomb County.

Among Pat's interests are serving in the Philanthropic Educational Organization (PEO). She has been a member of St. Louis Parish since 1973. Now Pat Huth considers among her hobbies enjoying three (and soon to be four) grandchildren and stressing the value of education for all those that are fortunate enough to have contact with her.

I want to express my congratulations to Pat Huth upon her retirement. Most importantly, I would like to thank her for her years of commitment to the education of children. Pat, you truly are an example for others to follow.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.●